

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 8, 10, 12-14 and 17-43 are presently pending in this application, Claims 1-7, 9, 11, 15 and 16 having been canceled, Claims 8, 10, 12, 17, 18, 20, 22, 23 and 25 having been amended, and Claims 27-43 having been newly added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite; Claims 1, 25 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Jang (U.S. Publication 2003/0221819); Claims 1-5, 7, 9, 11, 15, 16, 18-21, 25 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kawakubo et al. (U.S. Publication 2003/0188857); and Claims 6 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jang or Kawakubo et al. However, Claims 8, 10, 12-14 and 17 were indicated as including allowable subject matter.

First, Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that Claims 8, 10, 12-14 and 17 include allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Claims 8, 10, 12 and 17 have been rewritten in their respective independent forms, and Claims 18, 20, 22, 23 and 25 have been amended in accordance with their respective dependencies. With regard to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, the pending claims have been revised to clarify the noted subject matter recited therein, and thus, the pending claims are believed to be in compliance with the requirements of the statute. Consequently, Applicant respectfully requests that Claims 1-7, 9, 11, 15 and 16 be canceled without prejudice.

Also, Claims 27-43 have been newly added herein. These new claims find support in the original claims, Claims 6, 7 and 22-26, for example. Hence, no new matter is believed to be added thereby, and these new claims are believed to be allowable along with the amended claims above.

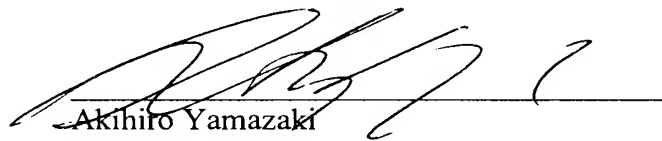
For the foregoing reasons, Claims 8, 10, 12 and 17 are believed to be allowable. Furthermore, since Claims 13, 14 and 18-43 depend directly or indirectly from one of Claim 8, 10, 12 and 17, substantially the same arguments set forth above also apply to these dependent claims. Hence, Claims 13, 14 and 18-43 are believed to be allowable as well.

In view of the amendments and discussions presented above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. If, however, the Examiner disagrees with any of the amendments, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned who will be happy to work in a joint effort to derive a mutually agreeable solution and expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, L.L.P.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Akihiro Yamazaki', is written over a horizontal line.

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